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Good Afternoon distinguished Senators and Representatives,

My name is Andrew Bloom. I am a licensed surety bail bondsman, bail enforcement agent, and one of the owners of 3-D Bail Bonds, Inc. which employs about 27 people.

I am also one of the owners of DADs Bail Bonds, LLC representing nearly 10,000 bail bonds written a year, a longtime member of The Professional Bail Agents of The United States, and a founding member and current President of the Bail Agents of Connecticut Association.

In my career as a Bail Enforcement Agent and as president of the Fugitive Recovery Agency, Inc., I have 1256 defendants arrested.

Bail Bonds is the only form of pretrial release to self monitor and self enforce non-compliance. No other form of pretrial release is held accountable when the principal fails to appear.

As many of you may know, I have been here to testify for many years in support of bail reform. I would now like the opportunity to demonstrate my **support of Raised Senate Bill 1122.**

- This bill will supplement the existing law and hold indemnitors, cosigners, and public taxpayers responsible for paying extradition costs forfeited bail bonds when the State chooses to extradite a defendant they otherwise would have refused due to costs.
- Why would the State extradite anyone at all when they can get money instead? Now they will have to bring back the offender for prosecution because they are not to be paid when they decline extradition.
- CT regularly demonstrates a lack of desire to extradite from anywhere. I have personally made prosecutors aware of defendants detained in MA, NY and RI just to have the extradition requests denied.
- I do believe bail agents and then ultimately the indemnitors, cosigners, and public taxpayers paying for extradition costs makes sense but there needs to be uniformity. A judge in one court will make rulings differently on the same circumstances as another judge from a different court. Some judges are ignoring the currant statute and still holding out for payment on forfeitures of defendants incarcerated in the next state over. I suggest putting those powers back into the hands of The Chief State's Attorney's Office, where they used to be, under one roof and one decision maker.
- Additionally, there needs to be an automatic extension of the stay of execution of the forfeited bail bond upon the court receiving proof of the defendant's being locked up in another jurisdiction so the court may make a decision on extradition and ultimately the defendant may be returned. I have language to this effect listed below.

This bill is not great for the public the way it is.

However, with some important and necessary changes, we could make it work.

I would be happy to work with The Committee to make the necessary changes to **RSB1122** and make it a sound piece of legislation good for The State as well as the public.

Thank you,

Andrew Bloom

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXTRADITION OF FUGITIVES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 54-65c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

(a) A court shall vacate an order forfeiting a bail bond and release the professional bondsman, as defined in section 29-144, the surety bail bond agent and the insurer, as both terms are defined in section 38a-660, if (1) the principal on the bail bond is detained or incarcerated in another state, territory or country, (2) the professional bondsman, the surety bail bond agent or the insurer provides proof of such detention or incarceration to the court and the state's attorney prosecuting the case, and (3) **(A) the state's attorney prosecuting the case declines to seek extradition of the principal, or (B) the state's attorney prosecuting the case decides to seek extradition of the principal and the professional bondsman, surety bail bond agent or insurer provides proof to the court that such bondsman, agent or insurer has paid to the Division of Criminal Justice the costs the division will incur in extraditing the principal to the state.** (b) **Upon receiving proof of detention or incarceration of the principal on a bail bond the court shall automatically extend the statutory six month stay of execution in accordance with 54-65a for the forfeiture of the bail bond until the principal is returned to the jurisdiction of the court.**